

**PUNJAB STATE ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION  
SITE NO. 3, BLOCK-B, SECTOR-18-A, MADHYA MARG, CHANDIGARH**

**Petition No. 51 of 2020**

**Date of Order: 21.12.2022**

Petition for revision of Schedule of General Charges recoverable from the applicants/consumers seeking electricity connections/services from PSPCL under Section 181 (u) of Electricity Act-2003, Regulation 47 of Supply Code-2014 and Regulation 69, 70, 71 & 72 of chapter XIII of the conduct of Business Regulations 2005

And

In the matter of: Punjab State Power Corporation Limited, The Mall,  
Patiala.

Petitioner.....

Present: Sh. Viswajeet Khanna, Chairperson  
Sh. Paramjeet Singh, Member

**Order**

PSPCL filed the present petition for revision of Schedule of General Charges for recovery of various charges from the applicants/consumers seeking electricity connections and other services from PSPCL viz Security (Consumption), Processing fees, Demand Notice Extension fees, Meter Rentals, Security (Meters), Meter Inspection & Testing fees, Reconnection fees etc. under Section 181 (u) of Electricity Act-2003 read with Regulation 47 of Supply Code, 2014 and Regulation 69, 70, 71 & 72 of the PSERC (Conduct of Business) Regulations, 2005.

1.0 PSPCL submitted as under;

- (i) PSPCL circulated Schedule of General Charges with the approval of the Commission vide commercial circular dated 10.01.2008.

- (ii) Since 2008, these charges have not been revised except security (consumption), security (meter), meter rentals & recoverable cost of meters/metering equipment damaged due to fault or negligence of consumers.
- (iii) Security (consumption) was last revised in the year 2010 vide CC no. 13/2010 dated 04.03.2010.
- (iv) Meter rentals, recoverable cost of meters /metering equipments damages due to fault or negligence of consumers & security (meters) were last revised in the year 2011 vide CC no. 40/2011 dated 24.10.2011. The Demand Notice extension fees have not been revised from last 20 years. The demand notice extension fee for AP category has been last revised in 2001.
- (v) Processing fee was allowed w.e.f. 01.01.2015.
- (vi) The per unit combined average cost of supply has increased by 88% during these years and tariff rates for different categories have increased manifold during last 10 years but rate of Security (Consumption) and other charges in the Schedule of General Charges remained same from last 10 years which needs to be revised.
- (vii) DS consumers of load above 50 KW, NRS consumers of load above 20 KW and SP, MS consumers have already been shifted to contract demand system while approved security (consumption) rates for these categories are still on per kW basis. So security (consumption) needs to be defined in per kVA basis for these categories.

2.0 PSPCL proposed the revision of Schedule of General Charges by taking following factors into consideration:

- i) The per unit combined average cost of supply in year 2008 was 343.99 paisa/unit which has increased to 645.15 paise/unit in 2020-21 therefore per unit combined average cost of supply has increased by 88% during these years. As per the labour rates issued by Department of Labour, Govt. of Punjab, the labour cost has also increased by more than 100% in 2019 as compared to the rates in 2009,. Therefore all the charges mentioned in Schedule of General Charges except security (consumption), security (meters), meter rentals & recoverable cost of meters /metering equipments, are proposed to be increased by 50 to 100% rounding off to nearest hundred or thousand.
- ii) Security (meters), Meter rentals & recoverable cost of meters/metering equipments are proposed to be revised by taking actual procurement cost of meters.
- iii) The rates for Security (Consumption) for all categories have been proposed by multiplying electricity consumption (electricity likely to be supplied after release of connection) with tariff rate (lowest slab of fixed and variable charges assuming that all the consumers would atleast fall in the lowest slab) as per Tariff Order 2020-21 issued by Hon'ble PSERC. The electricity likely to be supplied after release of connection has been estimated by LDHF formula prescribed at Annexure-8 of the Supply Code-2014.
- iv) As per regulation 16.1, for consumers covered under Bi-monthly billing, security has to be maintained for 75 days whereas for monthly billing, security has to be maintained for 45 days. Presently, Bi-monthly billing is being done for consumers of DS & NRS categories having sanctioned load upto 10 KW. Further



in view of regulation 30.8, for spot billing consumers, the Security (Consumption) has been calculated for 15 days less than those consumers which are not covered under Spot Billing. Presently, only the consumers of DS & NRS categories having sanctioned load upto 20 KW are covered under Spot Billing.

3.0 The petition was admitted vide order dated 19.02.2021 and PSPCL was directed to invite public objections as the petition involves public interest. PSPCL published the public notice inviting objection/suggestions in various Newspapers dated 26.03.2021. Public hearing was also carried out on 28.04.2021. No body from the public appeared in the public hearing and also no objection/comments were received from any stakeholder.

4.0 The Commission vide order dated 03.05.2021 raised following queries :

- (i) The rates of offering various services viz. meter inspection, testing fee, changing the position of meter, resealing of meter, reconnection etc have been proposed to be increased due to increase in average cost of supply and labour rates. The correlation of these charges with average cost of supply, to be explained. Also submit % age increase in labour rates over the period of time.
- (ii) The cost of meter equipment considered for calculating meter rentals should be inserted in Annexure F-1.
- (iii) PSPCL shifted most of the whole current meters of consumers in pillar boxes i.e. 20 in 1 or 4 in 1 or 6 in 1 meter boxes which were funded through centrally sponsored schemes or CAPEX. The justification for recovery of rentals for such pillar boxes/MCBs may be provided. The reasons for proposing same

MCB rentals for housing one meter or multiple meters may also be explained. The value of pillar boxes/MCBs considered for calculating MCB rental to be depicted in Annexure F-1.

- (iv) The charges for reconnecting vacant premises have been proposed. How these charges are different from reconnection charges proposed at Sr. No. 6.1 ibid to be explained.
- (v) The processing fee as per Regulation 6 and 8 were introduced w.e.f 1.1.2015. However, proposed increase has been linked to increase in cost of supply/labour rates over for 10 years. The same to be explained. The charges at 7.3.2(a) have already been covered under 7.1.1 and 7.1.2.
- (vi) The charges for testing of new/existing installation have been proposed whereas PSPCL has exempted verification of test reports of consumer vide CC No 36 of 2012 dated 26.10.2012. Under what conditions these charges are proposed to be recovered from consumers/ applicants to be explained.
- (vii) The charges for replacement of meter card/pass book for industrial/domestic/NRS consumers have been proposed whereas no such cards/ pass books are maintained for such consumers.
- (viii) The charges for review of energy bills have been prescribed. Provisions of Supply Code be quoted under which these charges can be levied.
- (ix) The meter installation charges have been proposed to be increased from 2% of the cost of metering equipment to 3% of the cost of metering equipment. The % age increase to be justified
- (x) The Security (consumption) for different category of consumers has been proposed on the basis of LDHF formula but the values

for various parameters are not in accordance with the provisions of clause (4) of Annexure-8 of Supply Code, 2014.

- (xi) The rates for meter security have been proposed. The copies of the latest purchase orders for each class of meters and other metering equipment be supplied along with an undertaking from CE/Metering that these purchase orders submitted to the Commission are the latest rates. PSPCL to explain these.
- (xii) The rates of security for temporary connections at twice the rates of security (consumption) for permanent category of consumers have been proposed whereas now the temporary supply consumer pays 1.25 times the normal tariff rates. Please explain.
- (xiii) The recoverable cost of meters has been calculated as per Annexure F-5, which includes testing and supervisions charges. The new meters are received by PSPCL duly sealed after testing from the supplier and only a small percentage of such meters are checked in PSPCL's laboratories. The recovery of testing charges from consumer may be justified. The justification for levy of 15% supervision charges be explained since supervision charges are recovered from those consumers who carry out the works at their level and the licensee supervise the execution, which is not applicable in this case. Moreover the supervision charges are levied on labour cost and not on the cost of material.
- (xiv) The repair charges for meters have been proposed. The static meters are not being repaired by PSPCL. Justification to be submitted.
- (xv) The service line rentals have been proposed. Service rentals were charged in lieu of service connection charges from DS &



NRS consumers connected prior to 1964. Justification to continue with such charges be submitted.

- (xvi) The demand notice extension fee for different load categories irrespective of consumer category have been proposed whereas earlier the rates were on the basis of consumer category. The rationale for the same be explained.
- (xvii) PSPCL to submit rates of general charges applicable for similar services in other States viz. Haryana, Delhi, UP, Gujarat, Maharashtra and MP.

5.0 PSPCL submitted the following reply vide CE/ARR&TR memo no. 6535 dated 29.06.2021:

- (i) The revision of rates for various services offered by PSPCL has been proposed keeping in view of increase in labour rates & increase in average cost of supply. There is no specific method to revise the rates of these services. However, increase in labour cost & increase in average costs of supply have indirect effects on the rates of these services. Accordingly, rates of these services have been proposed for revision by considering increase in the rates of labour cost & average cost of supply. Further, the labour rates issued by Department of Labour, Govt. of Punjab in the year 2009 & 2019 are attached. As per these labour rates, the monthly rates of wages for highly skilled workers have been increased 162.53 % (approx.) during last 10 years while rates for un-skilled workers have been increased by 164.12 % during same period.
- (ii) Annexure-F1 has been revised after specifying the cost of meter equipment considered for calculating meter rentals.
- (iii) PSPCL installs its own MCBs for release of new connections of electricity. Further, damaged MCBs are also being replaced by

PSPCL of its own. Therefore, meter rentals have been proposed for those MCBs which are being procured & installed by PSPCL.

Further, PSPCL cannot claim different meter rentals from consumers who have been provided supply through single phase meters merely on the fact that single phase meter of one consumer has been installed in 1-in-1 MCB and meter of other consumer has been installed in 4-in-1 MCB. Therefore, in order not to differentiate between various consumers, PSPCL has proposed same MCB rentals for all types of MCB for single phase meters whether installed in 1-in-1 or 4-in-1 MCB.

Annexure-F1 has been revised after depicting the value of pillar boxes/MCBs for calculating MCB rental.

- (iv) Charges for reconnecting vacant premises (as per sr. No. 6.2 of Annexure-F) shall be recovered in cases where supply has been disconnected & the agreement has been terminated on the request of the consumer but his service line/feeding line, irrespective of voltage, has not been dismantled, as provided in Regulation 34.4 of Supply Code-2014. Further reconnection charges provided in sr. no. 6.1 of Annexure-F shall be recovered in cases where distribution licensee has disconnected supply of electricity to any premises in consequence of a default on the part of the consumer under the provisions of Regulation 34.2 & 32.3 of Supply Code-2014. However, the proposed rates at sr. No. 6.1 & 6.2 of Annexure-F are same.

It is further submitted that the charges for reconnecting vacant premises (item no. 6.2 of schedule of general charges) and charges for reconnecting/ connecting the premises of any



consumer who was previously disconnected on account of breach of his agreement with PSPCL (item no. 6.1 of schedule of general charges) are already existing since 2008 which are approved by Hon'ble PSERC vide their letter no. 6752/PSERC/DIR/M/24 dated 01.01.2008.

Therefore, PSPCL has proposed revision in the existing charges only. However, if Commission decides to merge these charges, PSPCL has no objection.

- (v) The increase in cost of supply/labour rates over the years have indirect effects on processing fee which is also needs to be increased in proportion to the increase in labour rates/average cost of supply. Therefore, the revision of processing fees has been proposed.
- (vi) PSPCL has already exempted verification of test reports of consumer vide CC No 36 of 2012 dated 26.10.2012. However, there is a provision in Regulation 6.9.1 (iv) of Supply Code-2014 which states that no charges shall be levied for the first test/inspection by the distribution licensee but subsequent test/inspection, on account of deficiencies during the initial test/inspection shall be charged in accordance with the Schedule of General Charges.  
Therefore, charges for testing of consumer installation have been proposed in accordance with provisions. Further, in case if any applicant/consumer request PSPCL to test their installation, then these charges shall also be recoverable.
- (vii) No change in the charges for replacement of meter card/pass book for industrial/domestic/NRS consumers have been proposed by PSPCL.

- (viii) Energy bills of a consumer are being reviewed under the provisions of Regulation 35 of Supply Code-2014. For review of energy bills, charges have been specified in Schedule of general Charges which have already approved by Hon'ble PSERC vide their letter no. 6752/PSERC/ DIR/M/24 dated 01.01.2008. It is further submitted that no change in the charges for review of energy bills has been proposed by PSPCL.
- (ix) With the passage of time, new technology meters are being procured by PSPCL. The installation process of these meters is different from the old meters and requires new/ different T & P for installation. Therefore, meter installation charges have been proposed to be increased to 3% of the cost of metering equipment.
- (x) If the Security (Consumption) rates are calculated by considering all the values for various parameters mentioned in clause (4) of Annexure-8 of Supply Code-2014, a big/complex table consisting various slabs rates will be formed. To avoid the complexity and to keep Security (Consumption) rate in a simple order, category wise rates have been proposed by PSPCL.
- (xi) The copies of the latest purchase orders for each class of meters and other metering equipment along with an undertaking from CE/Metering is attached.
- (xii) The rates of security for temporary connections were approved by Hon'ble PSERC vide their letter no. 6752/PSERC/DIR/M/24 dated 01.01.2008 (item no. 16.4 of Schedule of General Charges). The rates of security for temporary connections were approved at twice the rates of security (consumption) for permanent category of consumers where duration of connections is upto 30 days and three times the rates of

security (consumption) for permanent category of consumers where duration of connections is more than 30 days.

The tariff order is being issued by Hon'ble PSERC every financial year. As per the Tariff Order issued for FY 2021-22, Tariff for temporary supply is 1.25 times the normal tariff rates. However, temporary supply tariff is not fixed and it may change in future with the issue of new Tariff Order.

Further, from the past experience of PSPCL, it is pertinent to mention here that the pilferage of electricity from temporary connections is more than regular connections. Sometimes consumers also misuse/unauthorizedly use temporary supply connections. Therefore to discourage such consumers for temporary supply, rates of security for temporary connections is kept higher in comparison to regular connections. However, no change has been proposed in the existing rates of security for temporary connections by PSPCL.

- (xiii) The supervision charges are levied in the event of consumers desiring to install his own meter as per Clause no. 60.4 of ESIM-2018. Clause no.60.4 of ESIM-2018 is re-produced as under:

*"In the event of the consumer desiring to install his own meter, the meter, (if there is no shortage), may be supplied by the PSPCL. The selling price of the meter shall be stock issue rate plus storage charges or the market rate whichever is higher plus supervision charges. In addition to this, the consumer will have to pay the installation and the establishment charges.*

*In case of disconnection or the meter becoming defective such meter should be sent to ME Lab and in case the*



*consumer does not come forward to take back the meter, the same may be kept in ME Lab duly accounted for."*

Therefore, in view of above clause, in case the consumer desires to install his own meter, the meter, (if there is no shortage), may be supplied by the PSPCL. The selling price of the meter shall be stock issue rate plus storage charges or the market rate whichever is higher plus supervision charges.

Since the recoverable cost of meter/metering equipment was prepared keeping in view that the meter/metering equipment was damaged due to fault or negligence of consumer and since the whole cost of meter/metering equipment is to be recovered from consumer in such a case, therefore, the supervision charges and installation charges were added to the cost of the meter/ metering equipment on similar lines as in case of installation of own meter by consumer as per Clause no. 60.4 of ESIM-2018.

With regard to recovery of testing charges from consumer, it is submitted that in case of LTCT and HT meters, 100% testing of meters is done. However, in case of single phase whole current meters and three phase whole current meters, 100% testing is done if the meters are supplied by the consumer. As such, testing charges are recoverable from the consumer.

- (xiv) Meter repair charges are being recovered from consumers only in those cases where meter is being repaired by PSPCL. If meter is not repaired by PSPCL, no charges are being recovered from consumers.

Further, it is also submitted that meter repair charges have been proposed keeping in view of future possibility because PSPCL may start meter repairing in future.

- (xv) No change in the service line rentals have been proposed by PSPCL. Further, it is submitted that there may be some connections of DS & NRS categories which may be running since the period when service rentals were charged. In those cases, service line rentals have to be recovered.

It is further submitted that service rentals are being continued with the approval of Hon'ble PSERC only. Service rentals were last approved by Hon'ble PSERC vide their letter no. 6752/PSERC/DIR/M/24 dated 01.01.2008 (item no. 18 of Schedule of General Charges). However, if Commission decides to discontinue these rentals, PSPCL may not have any objections.

- (xvi) The revision of demand notice extension fee has been proposed on the basis of load/demand of the consumer (irrespective of consumer category). The impact of high loads/demands is more in comparison to low loads/demands on the distribution system of PSPCL. Therefore, demand notice extension fee have been proposed on load/demand basis.

The higher demand notice extension fee has been proposed for higher load/demand to discourage the consumes for multiple extension. If an applicant applies for load/demand more than 100 kVA, feasibility clearance is granted by taking the loading position of HT/EHT lines & feeding sub-station. The load/demand applied by the consumer gets locked till the time of release of the connection. In case, if consumer does not

comply with demand notice within extended validity, PSPCL is not able use the available system capacity for release of connections to other consumers. For release of connections to other consumers, PSPCL have to upgrade its infrastructure. Therefore, to discourage such consumers, the revision of demand notice extension fee has been proposed on the basis of load/demand of the consumer

- (xvii) The rates of general charges applicable for similar services in other States are attached.

6.0 The Commission vide order dated 12.07.2021 directed PSPCL to reply to the following queries:

- (i) PSPCL was directed that the copies of the latest purchase orders for each class of meters and other metering equipment be supplied along with an undertaking from Chief Engineer/Metering that these purchase orders are the latest. However, as per the undertaking submitted by PSPCL, it has been certified by the Chief Engineer/ Metering that the Purchase Orders are up to 29.08.2019. PSPCL should submit the latest purchase orders and recalculate the meter rentals and other rates relating to metering equipment accordingly.
- (ii) Various rates of metering equipment mentioned in Annexure-F1 does not match with the rates mentioned in the purchase orders. The same may be reviewed.
- (iii) Schedule of charges in respect of Maharashtra, Haryana, Delhi and Uttar Pradesh have been provided but these are not complete list of charges. PSPCL should provide complete list of general charges prevailing in these States vis-a-vis Punjab in a tabulated form.



7.0 PSPCL vide CE/ARR&TR memo no. 7907 dated 21.12.2021 submitted the following reply:

- (i) The copies of purchase orders issued till 31.08.2021 for each class of meters and other metering equipment are attached. Meter Rentals, Meter Security and Recoverable Cost of Meter & metering equipment have been recalculated based on PO's issue till 31.08.2021 and same are attached.
- (ii) The Meter Rentals have been reviewed based on latest PO's issued till 31.08.2021 and revised Meter Rentals are attached.
- (iii) The schedule of charges of other states have been searched on the official website of various discoms & SERCs and whatever schedule of charges were available, same have earlier been sent. No other charges have been found. Accordingly, it is requested to accept the same.

8.0 The Commission vide Order dated 29.04.2022 directed PSPCL to further submit the reply to the following;

- (i) While calculating recoverable cost of meters, departmental charges @ 27.05% has been considered. Such charges are recovered in case of deposit works executed on behalf of consumers and such works remain the property of the consumer. However, meters are the property of the licensee. Levy of departmental charges @ 27.5% may be justified.
- (ii) The testing and calibration charges in case of poly-phase meters with CTs has been proposed as Rs.2500/- whereas the cost of the LT/CT meter itself is Rs.2464/-. Similarly, the testing fee for poly-phase whole current meter has been proposed as Rs.700/- whereas the cost of the meter is Rs.1290/-. Such high rates for testing and calibration may be justified.

- (iii) While calculating Security (Consumption), the tariff rates for FY 2019-20 have been considered. The tariff rates as per Tariff Order for FY 2022-23 may be considered for calculation.
- (iv) The actual consumption (per kW or per kVA, as applicable) for different categories of consumers (Slab wise) as per the consumption data for FY 2021-22 may be supplied.
- (v) The spot billing is applicable only for DS and NRS consumers with load upto 20kW whereas at Sr. No.16.3, Security (Consumption) has been calculated for all other categories of consumers also. PSPCL to explain.

9.0 PSPCL submitted the reply vide letter dated 18.07.2022 as under:

- (i) These charges are applicable to those consumers who purchase the meters of their own. Meter rent is not to be charged from these consumers.
- (ii) These proposed charges are calculated while considering the average combined cost of supply & labour. The labour rate has increased by 100% in 2019 as compared to the rates in 2009.
- (iii) The calculation sheet for calculating security (consumption) is prepared while considering the Tariff rates for FY 2022-23 and is attached.
- (iv) The consumption data is being prepared by the office of CE/IT and is expected to be prepared in the month of August 2022.
- (v) It is agreed that spot billing is applicable only for DS & NRS consumers having load upto 20 KW. The security (consumption) has been calculated for other categories for reference only & considering future possibilities.

10.0 PSPCL vide CE/ARR&TR letter dated 12.09.2022 submitted the actual slab consumption data for different category of consumers.

11.0 After hearing the PSPCL's officers on 16.11.2022, the Commission reserved the order vide order dated 17.11.2022.

## **12.0 Commission's Findings and Order;**

PSPCL has filed the present petition for revision of General Charges. Public objections were invited vide notice dated 26.03.2021 and a public hearing was also held in the office of the Commission on 28.04.2021. No objection/comments were received from any stakeholder and also no body from the public appeared in the public hearing.

It is observed that the Schedule of General Charges was last published by PSPCL, after approval of the Commission, vide commercial circular dated 10.01.2008. Thereafter, the Security (consumption) rates were revised on 04.03.2010 and meter rental/security rates etc were revised in 2011. During this period, the labour rates have increased by over 160%. The tariff rates for different category of consumers have also increased substantially due to increased cost of supply. The specifications and metering technology have also undergone lot of changes over a period of time. All these factors need a comprehensive review of the Schedule of General Charges. The Commission has examined the proposal of PSPCL in detail and after verification of the data/documents & submissions made during the proceedings of this petition, the Commission decides as under;



- (i) The labour rates as issued by labour department have increased by over 160% since 2008 so the general charges, where manpower/labour is involved, such as meter inspection/testing fee, meter shifting fee, resealing of meters, reconnection fee, testing fee, meter installation fee etc have been increased from about 50% to 100% as proposed by PSPCL.
- (ii) Meter rental, recoverable cost of meters and meter security rates were last revised in 2011. The latest rates of meter and other metering equipments provided by PSPCL have been considered while revising these charges. Although the cost of smart meters are very high as compared to static meters but the Commission has decided not to put any extra burden on the consumers where smart meters are being installed by the licensee. Therefore same meter rentals for all types of meters i.e static or smart meters have been approved. Only in case the meter is damaged/burnt/stolen due to the negligence of the consumer, the actual cost of the meter shall be recovered from the consumer as per Regulation 21.4 of the Supply Code, 2014, as amended from time to time. The rentals for bi-directional meters have not been approved since these meters are to be installed at the cost of the consumer and no rentals are recoverable as per Regulation 7 of PSERC (Grid Interactive Rooftop SPV Systems) Regulations, 2021.
- (iii) No rates for reconnecting vacant premises on the request of the consumer in case the service line is existing have been approved since these are covered under reconnection charges.
- (iv) The processing fee was introduced w.e.f 1.1.2015 so for new connections the processing fee has been increased

accordingly. For HT/EHT consumers since for demand above 500 kVA, feasibility study is involved so charges have been doubled. The processing charges for other services such as changing the title, conversion of supply, shifting of meter etc have been doubled.

- (v) No charges for testing consumer installation for the first time have been approved as per Regulation 6.9 of the Supply Code, 2014. However, consumer shall be liable to deposit testing fee in case of subsequent inspection on account of deficiency during initial inspection.
- (vi) No meter card or pass book is maintained for consumers except AP consumers so the charges only for AP consumers have been approved.
- (vii) The charges for issue of duplicate bill have been approved as per Regulation 30.10 of the Supply Code, 2014 but as the energy bill details are available on PSPCL's website so the consumers can download the bill from website without any cost.
- (viii) Since there is no provision in the Supply Code, 2014 for recovering any fee in case a consumer disputes the energy bill so no rates have been approved.
- (ix) Since PSPCL have no testing facility for EHT PTs and testing can only be carried out in testing labs accredited by NABL so actual cost incurred on such testing in these labs shall be recoverable from consumer.
- (x) Capacitor checking rates are obsolete due to introduction of kVAh tariff. AP consumers never request for checking of capacitors so these charges have been dispensed with.
- (xi) PSPCL has calculated the Security (consumption) on the basis of kW/kVA consumption as per LDHF formula which is not

realistic. The rates have been approved keeping in view the actual slab wise per kW/kVA consumption for different categories of consumers for FY 2021-22 provided by PSPCL. After the release of connection, the Security (consumption) is subject to review as per Regulation 16 of the Supply Code, 2014 on the basis of actual consumption and tariff rates so there should not be high rates of Security (consumption) at the time of submission of application.

Further, since at present billing for consumers with load not exceeding 7 kW is on bi-monthly basis so Security (consumption) to cover consumption charges for two & half months as per Regulation 16.1 of the Supply Code, 2014 have been approved for DS/NRS consumers with load not exceeding 7 kW. For other consumers, the billing is monthly so Security (consumption) to cover consumption charges for one & half months have been approved. The Security (consumption) for consumers covered under Contract demand system of billing has been approved on kVA basis.

The spot billing is applicable for only DS/NRS consumers with load less than 20 kW and these consumers are required to maintain Security (consumption) for 60 days in case of bimonthly billing and 30 days in case of monthly billing so rates have been approved accordingly.

- (xii) The increase in the cost of HT CT/PT Units as compared to existing rates is due to revision of accuracy class of these metering equipment as per latest Indian Standards. The recoverable cost and rentals have accordingly increased.

The Commission has taken a serious view of the inordinate delay on the part of PSPCL to submit the proposal along with



supporting documents for revision of Schedule of General Charges for approval of the Commission. Such delay not only cause financial loss to the licensee but also results in appreciable increase in some charges causing hardship to the consumers. PSPCL is directed to submit the Schedule of General Charges along with supporting documents for revision after every two years.

In view of the above, the Schedule of General Charges is approved and is annexed to this order. The revised rates shall be applicable from the date of issue of this order.

The petition is disposed of accordingly

Sd/-  
**(Paramjeet Singh)**  
**Member**

Sd/-  
**(Viswajeet Khanna)**  
**Chairperson**

Chandigarh

Dated: 21.12.2022

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